

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 3 (paragraph [5]) with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Given the difficulty in producing polyketide compounds by traditional chemical methodology, and the typically low production of polyketides in wild type cells, there ~~[[as]]~~ has been considerable interest in finding improved or alternate means to produce polyketide compounds. See PCT Publication Nos. WO 95/08548; WO 96/40968; WO 97/02358; and 98/27203; Unites States Patent Nos. 5,962,290; 5,672,491; and 5,712,146; Fu *et al.*, *Biochemistry* **33**: 9321-9326 (1994); McDaniel *et al*, *Science* **262**:1546-1555 (1993); and Rohr, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **34(8)**: 881-888 (1995), each of which is incorporated herein by reference.--